Standards of Practice: School Health Services



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In June, 2009, the Commissioners of the Vermont Departments of Health (VDH) and Education (DOE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding school health services in Vermont. The MOU states the joint effort "seeks to link, and to optimize the efficiency of, and the efforts of the VDH and DOE in providing school health services". The information in this manual is designed to provide guidance to school administrators, school nurses, and others, towards the development, implementation and evaluation of school health services. The Commissioners of these Departments have the ultimate approval to its content.

The process of continuously updating the manual is a coordinated effort between the DOE and the VDH. Recommendations to the Commissioners of DOE and VDH are made by the Joint School Health Committee (JSHC). This Committee is supported by a subcommittee called, the School Health Standards of Practice Committee (SHSPC).

SHSPC consists of five public school nurses, the Vermont Department of Health's School Nurse Consultant, the Vermont State School Nurses' Association President, as well as a Vermont Pediatrician.

JSHC consists of professional staff from the DOE and VDH, as well as a representatives from such groups as, an Institution of higher education, the Vermont State Board of Nursing, the Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Vermont Medical Society, the Vermont State School Nurses' Association, the Vermont Principals' Association, the Vermont Superintendents Association, the Vermont School Boards Association, and the University of Vermont's Vermont Child Health Improvement Program.

Organization of this manual:

Each section contains a statement of purpose, authorization, and legal references (where applicable). Sections contain active links, the school nurse role, and when available links to Vermont or national resources. Each section contains the most recent review date. **Sections may be downloaded, but not altered in any way without consent of the VDH and DOE.**